



7th of May, 2021

Deputy Smith,
Kildare Street,
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 23584/21:

“PQ 23584/21: To ask the Minister for Health if the recruitment of vaccinators will be streamlined and unnecessary delays eliminated in the case of applicants such as recently retired general practitioners and other health professionals that are still registered with their professional body; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

Thank you for your recent query.

The national recruitment process for COVID-19 vaccinators is streamlined as much as possible, balanced against the need for anyone working in health to meet statutory and safe practice requirements. Candidates working in the provision of health services have to meet statutory requirements for any relevant role they are appointed into.

The Frequently Asked Questions document created for this recruitment initiative outlines the rationale for each part of the application and training process and is on the website. Ireland’s vaccination strategy is to use vaccines as they arrive and the intention is that the vaccination programme will be limited only by supply. As the supply increases the Vaccination Clinics will look for increased staffing numbers to administer the vaccine.

Applicants’ engagement with the recruitment process and training requirements to-date is very important. A key part of the national recruitment campaign is to have a workforce of Vaccinators who are ready to work as roles arise. Fast, safe recruitment supports the health services.

We would like to acknowledge their commitment to the vaccine roll out and for their continued support and patience in this recruitment process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Walsh'.

David Walsh
Workstream Lead Vaccination Process and Workforce